



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Tennessee Farm Facts

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

November Crop Production Chicken & Eggs TDA News Release

Dairy Products Prices Farm Labor

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Swift Harvest Pace Brings Crop Production Picture Into Focus

Tennessee experienced hot, dry weather throughout most of the growing season this year, and the month of October was no exception. This continuing trend allowed virtually uninterrupted access to fields and pastures last month. As a result, harvest activities were in full gear all month long. Farmers were able to complete corn and tobacco harvests and came close to wrapping up cotton and soybeans. Results of a recent survey of farmers conducted by the National Agricultural Statistics Service showed the state's soybeans and corn prospects were lowered a bit while cotton remained unchanged. The November forecast, which is based on farmers' projections of final yields as of the first of the month, showed the following results: **Corn**, 115 bushels per acre, down 33 bushels from 2009; **Cotton**, 905 pounds per acre, up 62 pounds from a year earlier; and **Soybeans**, 32 bushels per acre, down 13 bushels from the previous year.

Cotton Forecast Unchanged From October

Tennessee's cotton production is forecast at 730,000 bales, up 48 percent from last year's production of 492,000 bales. Cotton yields are expected to average 905 pounds per acre, up 62 pounds from the previous year. Producers expect to harvest 387,000 acres, an increase of 107,000 acres from 2009. October was a good month for harvest. Hot, dry conditions allowed defoliant to work very well. As a result, the crop opened nicely and was relatively easy to pick rendering "scrapping" not much of a necessity. As of the week ending October 31, less than 5 percent of the crop remained unharvested.

Soybean Production Forecast Slides Again

Soybean production is forecast at 45.1 million bushels, down 23.7 million from last year's near record output. Soybean yields are forecast at 32 bushels per acre, down a bushel from last month and 13 bushels below 2009. The State's planted acreage is estimated at 1.45 million acres, down 8 percent from a year earlier. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 1.41 million, down 120,000 acres from a year ago. By October 31, an unprecedented 95 percent of the state's soybean acreage had been harvested. That is the highest harvest percentage at that time since records began in 1969. Yields were highly variable, even within a county.

Corn Production Below 2010 Level

Tennessee's corn production is forecast at 72.5 million bushels, down 17 percent from a year ago. Yields are expected to average 115 bushels per acre, 33 bushels below 2009 and 2 bushels below the October 1 forecast. The State's planted acreage is estimated at 710,000 acres, up 40,000 from last year. Farmers expect to harvest 630,000 acres for grain, also 40,000 more than last year. Harvest was wrapped up by mid-October as favorable harvest weather allowed virtually uninterrupted progress throughout late summer and early fall.

U.S. Summary

Corn production is forecast at 12.5 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the October forecast and down 4 percent from last year's record production of 13.1 billion bushels. As of November 1, yields are expected to average 154.3 bushels per acre, down 1.5 bushels from the previous month and 10.4 bushels below last year's record of 164.7 bushels. Forecasted yields decreased from last month throughout much of the Corn Belt, with the biggest decline forecasted in Missouri, down 7 bushels per acre. The expected yield in South Dakota declined 5 bushels from last month while the Nebraska yield dropped 4 bushels per acre. Record high yields are forecast in California, Georgia, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, North Dakota, and Wisconsin. **Soybean** production is forecast at a record high 3.38 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the October forecast but up slightly from last year. Based on November 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 43.9 bushels per acre, down 0.5 bushel from last month and down 0.1 bushel from last year's record high yield. Compared with last month, yields are forecast lower or unchanged in all major-producing States except Delaware, Michigan, Mississippi, North Carolina, Texas, and Wisconsin. The largest decreases in yield from last month are expected in Kansas, Nebraska, New Jersey, and South Dakota, down 2 bushels each. If realized, the forecasted yields in Illinois, Louisiana, New York, and Wisconsin will be record highs and the forecasted yield in Michigan and North Dakota will tie the previous record high. Area for harvest in the United States is forecast at 76.8 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast but up 1 percent from 2009. **All cotton** production is forecast at 18.4 million 480-pound bales, down 2 percent from last month but up 51 percent from last year's 12.2 million bales. Yield is expected to average 821 pounds per harvested acre, up 44 pounds from last year. Upland cotton production is forecast at 17.9 million 480-pound bales, down 2 percent from last month but 52 percent above 2009. Producers in Texas and Oklahoma are expecting decreased yields from last month. American Pima production, forecast at 497,800 bales, was carried forward from last month.

Crop Forecasts: Tennessee and United States, November 1, 2010, with Comparisons

Crop	Units	Harvested Acres		Yield Per Acre		Production	
		2009	Indicated 2010	2009	Indicated 2010	2009	Indicated 2010
		Thousands		Number of Units		Thousands	
Tennessee							
Apples	lb.	---	---	---	---	8,000	9,000
Corn for grain	bu.	590	630	148	115	87,320	72,450
Cotton ¹	lb.	280	387	843	905	492	730
Hay, All (excluding Alfalfa)	ton	1,900	1,900	2.20	2.30	4,180	4,370
Soybeans	bu.	1,530	1,410	45	32	68,850	45,120
Tobacco, All	lb.	21.6	22.3	2,313	2,112	49,960	47,090
Dark fire-cured	lb.	6.4	6.2	3,100	2,900	19,840	17,980
Burley	lb.	14.0	15.0	1,920	1,750	26,880	26,250
Dark air-cured	lb.	1.2	1.1	2,700	2,600	3,240	2,860
Winter Wheat	bu.	340	190	51.0	53.0	17,340	9,540
United States							
Apples	lb.	---	---	---	---	9,914,900	9,413,500
Corn for grain	bu.	79,590	81,263	164.7	154.3	13,110,062	12,539,646
Cotton ¹	lb.	7,528.7	10,773.0	777	821	12,187.5	18,417.8
Hay, All (excluding Alfalfa)	ton	38,528	38,924	1.98	2.08	76,412	80,952
Soybeans	bu.	76,372	76,823	44.0	43.9	3,359,011	3,375,067
Tobacco, All	lb.	354.2	338.0	2,322	2,110	822,567	713,033
Dark fire-cured	lb.	16.2	15.6	3,281	3,080	52,990	48,055
Burley	lb.	101.9	97.9	2,109	1,897	214,896	185,695
Dark air-cured	lb.	5.8	5.6	2,938	2,761	17,040	15,460
Winter Wheat	bu.	34,510	31,749	44.2	46.8	1,524,608	1,485,236

¹ Production in 480-lb. net weight bales. U.S. production includes American-Pima cotton.

Chicken & Eggs: United States egg production totaled 7.68 billion during October 2010, down slightly from last year. Production included 6.60 billion table eggs, and 1.08 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.01 billion were broiler-type and 71 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during October 2010 averaged 336 million, up slightly from last year. October egg production per 100 layers was 2,285 eggs, down slightly from October 2009.

**Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Selected States
and United States, During October 2009 & 2010**

Selected States	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 or more		All Layers ¹		Eggs per 100 for All Layers ¹	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	Thousands				Number	
Alabama	1,271	1,370	9,150	9,498	1,956	1,948
Arkansas	3,434	3,248	11,966	12,078	2,039	2,020
Georgia	8,587	8,339	17,157	17,008	2,192	2,211
North Carolina	5,591	5,825	12,648	13,060	2,079	2,060
All Other States ²	257,222	255,738	284,898	284,202	2,329	2,322
United States	276,105	274,520	335,819	335,846	2,292	2,285

¹ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size. ² Tennessee is included in all other states total.

Bredesen Announces Federal Farm Assistance for 12 More Counties

31 Adjoining Counties Also Eligible for Assistance

Governor Phil Bredesen announced today that U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack has designated 12 more counties a natural disaster for agriculture as a result of drought and excessive heat during the growing season. Bredesen requested the Secretarial designation last month. Counties designated as primary natural disaster areas include Benton, Bledsoe, Blount, Carroll, Greene, Loudon, McMinn, Meigs, Monroe, Roane, Warren and Weakley.

“This has been an unusual growing season for farmers who have had to endure the extremes of flooding and drought,” said Bredesen. “I’m pleased that farmers in these areas have an opportunity to apply for federal assistance to help them better prepare for next year.” The Secretarial disaster designation makes farmers in primary and adjoining counties eligible to apply for low-interest loans and supplemental farm payments through their local USDA Farm Service Agency. The adjoining counties include Anderson, Bradley, Cannon, Cocke, Coffee, Cumberland, DeKalb, Decatur, Gibson, Grundy, Hamblen, Hamilton, Hawkins, Henderson, Henry, Houston, Humphreys, Knox, Madison, Morgan, Obion, Perry, Polk, Rhea, Sequatchie, Sevier, Stewart, Unicoi, Van Buren, Washington and White. Knox and Sumner counties were designated primary natural disaster areas in October.

Farmers in affected counties have reported crop losses generally ranging from 30 to 50 percent, and higher in some cases, for corn, soybeans, cotton, hay and specialty crops. Livestock producers also reported feeding winter stocks of hay earlier than normal this year. According to the Tennessee Field Office of the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service, the final seasonal survey for the week ending November 7 showed two-thirds of pastures statewide rated in poor to very poor condition. For the latest forecast on the state’s crop harvest, visit www.nass.usda.gov/tn.

Dairy Products Prices Highlights

Butter prices received for 25 kilogram and 68 pound boxes meeting United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Grade AA standards averaged \$2.06 per pound for the week ending November 13, 2010. The United States (US) price per pound decreased 7.4 cents from the previous week.

Cheddar Cheese prices received for US 40 pound blocks averaged \$1.67 per pound for the week ending November 13, 2010. The price per pound decreased 5.7 cents from the previous week. The price for US 500 pound barrels adjusted to 38 percent moisture averaged \$1.64 per pound, down 8.4 cents from the previous week.

Dry Whey prices received for bag, tote, and tanker sales meeting USDA Extra Grade standards averaged 37.1 cents per pound for the week ending November 13, 2010. The US price per pound decreased 0.1 cents from the previous week.

Nonfat Dry Milk prices received for bag, tote, and tanker sales meeting USDA Extra Grade or United States Public Health Service (USPHS) Grade A standards averaged \$1.19 per pound for the week ending November 13, 2010. The US price per pound increased 0.3 cents from the previous week.

Hired Workers Up 4 Percent, Wage Rates Up 2 Percent From a Year Ago

There were 1,157,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of October 10-16, 2010, up 4 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 826,000 were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 331,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$11.13 per hour during the October 2010 reference week, up 20 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.49 per hour, up 27 cents from last October, while livestock workers earned \$10.27 per hour compared with \$10.28 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.43 per hour, was up 19 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 41.7 for hired workers during the survey week, up 7 percent from a year ago.